

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method comprising measuring gaps between data consecutive packets of an ordered packet stream which have one or more other packets therebetween received via a network connection in order and calculating a network delay in the connection that is attributed to the network.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - monitoring the network connection at a network device;
 - receiving a first packet at the network device;
 - receiving a second packet at the network device; and
 - determining whether the measured gap is greater than a predetermined value corresponding to round trip network delay for the connection.
3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:
 - calculating a gap value; and
 - calculating a new network delay value based upon the gap value.
4. The method of claim 3 further comprising reporting the new network delay value.
5. A network comprising:
 - a client computer;
 - a server computer; and
 - a network device coupled to the client computer and the network computer, the network device to determine the network delay of a connection between the client computer and server computer based upon gap

measurements between a plurality of packets received at the network device from the client computer and server computer.

6. The network of claim 5 wherein the network device comprises:
a packet shaper; and
a measurement engine.
7. The network of claim 6 wherein the packet shaper comprises a timer that measures the time gap between each of the plurality of packets received at the packet shaper from the client computer and server computer.
8. The network of claim 6 wherein the measurement engine calculates updated network delays based upon a predetermined round trip network delay for the connection and calculated gap values.
9. The network of claim 5 further comprising:
a classification engine;
a response time block; and
management control.
10. The network of claim 9 further comprising:
an embedded database; and
a user interface.
11. A network device configured to determine the network delay of a network connection based upon gap measurements between a plurality of packets received at the network device.